

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this nineteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and third.

JIMMY CARTER

EDITORIAL NOTE: The President's statement of Sept. 19, 1978, on signing Proclamation 4597, is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 14, p. 1540).

Proclamation 4598

September 20, 1978

**National Guard Day, 1978**

*By the President of the United States of America*

**A Proclamation**

Three hundred and forty-two years ago, the First Militia Regiment of the Massachusetts Bay Colony was organized to enable the colonists to defend themselves and their settlement. That step toward citizen self-defense was the beginning of our National Guard, the oldest military organization in the United States.

Over those three centuries, names have changed—Militia, State Troops, State Volunteers, and, finally, the National Guard—but the spirit of the citizen-soldier has been constant. It is exemplified by those who stand prepared to leave their civilian occupations, don the uniform of their Country, and serve their States and their Nation when the need arises.

In time of war, the Guard is always ready to serve. At King's Mountain, the Meuse-Argonne, Bataan, Omaha Beach, and the Iron Triangle, during the Berlin Airlift and Vietnam, the Guard has served in every major conflict in which this country has engaged.

When disaster strikes in time of peace, the Guard is equally ready to serve—as it has, in recent years, at Johnstown, Texas City, and in the wake of Hurricane Agnes.

In recognition of the debt of gratitude owed by the people of the United States to those who serve as members of the National Guard, the Congress has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating October 7, 1978, as National Guard Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, ask all Americans to celebrate Saturday, October 7, 1978, as National Guard Day and to honor the Army and Air National Guard of the United States for service to their communities, to their States and to their Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twentieth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and third.

JIMMY CARTER

Proclamation 4599

September 21, 1978

National Forest Products Week, 1978

*By the President of the United States of America*

**A Proclamation**

When we Americans stop to reflect about our wealth of natural resources and the benefits they bestow, we quickly realize the worth of our Nation's forests. One-third of our land, some 740 million acres, is forested, and we get a wide range of essential products from many of these forests. Trees become houses to shelter us, books to convey our thoughts, packaging to protect our food energy to power our factories or heat our homes.

A forest can be many things at the same time. With sound management, we need never fear running out of trees. A forest is a renewable resource. But for all its powers of regeneration, a forest is not invulnerable. If we use it unwisely or wastefully, it can disappear. If we ignore the diverse needs of our people, the forests will cease to preserve the natural watersheds, to provide a home for wildlife or a wilderness where our people can renew their spirits. Many of the earth's problems today are the result of generations of destructive deforestation that has left lands barren and wasted. We must make sure that man's works lie gently on our land, so that we may leave for future generations a richer, more abundant, more beautiful land than we inherited.

Research is helping to show the ways to get as much usable material as possible from each harvested tree, finding better methods for protecting wood products so they last longer and developing ways to recycle used wood into new products. Our scientists are also finding ways to make trees grow faster, and to protect the forest from its natural enemies of fire, insects, and disease.

The Congress has designated the third week of October in each year as National Forest Products Week to remind us of the importance of forests in our national life.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week of October 15 through 21, 1978, as National Forest Products Week and ask all Americans to reflect upon the value of our forests.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-first day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and third.

JIMMY CARTER